Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on page 1, lines 20-32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the terminal device receiving first the input data, ~~when~~ a time signal is added ~~when~~ in a state variation of the input data, time synchronization as precise as a required time resolution or higher needs to be taken between the terminal devices, and the prior art involves the use of transmission lines for connecting the terminal devices or signal lines dedicated to the time synchronization. In this case, the system is configured as a transmission system that ~~account~~ accounts for the time synchronization, or hardware and software dedicated to the time synchronization are needed. This might induce a decrease in data transmission efficiency, and a decline of economical ~~characteristic~~ value, and might lose a continuity of time because ~~if~~ of the time itself being rewritten when correcting the time.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 8, lines 6-31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Herein, the time signal distributor 103 includes a quartz oscillator 501, an internal reference signal generator 502 and an internal absolute time signal generator 504 in case the receipt of the signal from the GPS receiver 102 is interrupted due to a fault of GPS 101 or a disconnection of the signal cable or a cut-off of the power supply, and an abnormality in transmission is thereby recognized. The internal reference signal generator 502, based on an output signal of the quartz oscillator 501, generates an internal reference signal 503 used as a substitute for the UTC synchronization reference signal 201 given from the GPS receiver 102. The internal absolute time signal generator 504 receives the UTC synchronization absolute time signal 202 from the GPS receiver 102 at a normal time[[.]], and generates an internal absolute time signal 505 referring to this signal 202. If the UTC synchronization absolute time signal 202 disappears, however, the internal absolute time signal generator 504

outputs an internal reference signal 505 generated based on the output signal of the quartz oscillator 501. If the receipt of the signal from the GPS receiver 102 is interrupted, the signal synthesizing unit 203 synthesizes the internal reference signal 503 and the internal absolute time signal 505 as substitutes for the UTC synchronization reference signal 201 and the UTC synchronization absolute time signal 202, thereby generating the reference time signal 204. Then, the signal synthesizing unit 203 transmits the reference time signals 204 in distribution to the respective terminal devices.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 9, lines 12-23, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Thus, the reference time signal synchronizing with UTC is obtained by use of the GPS 101 with a general-purposed characteristic but no restriction in terms of the utilizing place, and transmitted to each of the distributed control oriented terminal devices through the optical signal transmitting paths, e.g., the optical cables, whereby the time signal transmission system exhibiting an excellent anti-noise characteristic can be configured. Further, the time signal distributor 103 is capable of broadcasting the signals to the plurality of terminal devices, thereby attaining a simplified system having ~~excellency in~~ an excellent economical characteristic and making it feasible to execute a highly accurate time synchronizing process.

Please replace the first full paragraph on page 11, lines 10-14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to this embodiment, even if a width of deviation from the reference clock is by far larger than at a rise of processing of the time synchronizing system, the time synchronism can be momentarily taken, and a time reliability of ~~the of~~ each terminal device can be enhanced.

Please replace the third full paragraph on page 9, lines 27-33, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to this embodiment, even if it is impossible ~~of receiving~~ to receive the time signal from the GPS 101 or the GPS receiver 102 due to some sort of fault, the time signal distributor 103 can broadcast the internal time synchronized with the GPS 101 to all [[he]] the terminal devices 1041 – 104n. The reliability for ensuring the time synchronization between the terminal devices can be thereby extended.